



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes 7/14/2010

Thompson School Building Committee Meeting  
 Wednesday, July 14, 2010  
 Arlington High School  
 Superintendent's Office – 6th Floor  
 7:00 pm

### Present:

Robert Juusola / Vice-Chair  
 Sheri Donovan, Thompson School Principal  
 Tobey Jackson, Thompson School Parent Rep  
 Diane Johnson, APS, CFO  
 Domenic Lanzillotti, Town of Arlington, Purchasing Agent  
 Anthony Lionetta, Capital Planning Rep  
 Bill Shea, PTBC  
 Brian Sullivan, Town Manager  
 Karen Tassone / Secretary  
 Jeff Thielman, School Committee Rep

Attendees: PMA Consultants, Kevin Nigro  
 HMFH Architects, George Metzger, Lori Cowles

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm

### Enrollment

- 380 vs. 330

Rob Juusola reviewed the letter received by MSBA certifying enrollment at 330 students without redistricting and 380 students with redistricting with supporting documentation from the school committee. The school committee did vote at their May 11th meeting to initiate and implement a redistricting plan to move 50 students into the Thompson Elementary School by the date the new Thompson School opens. The letter with the certified motion from the school committee minutes was submitted to MBSA; Kevin Nigro will follow up to ensure that it has been received.

On a motion by Bill Shea and seconded it was unanimously

Voted to acknowledge that the Thompson School Building Committee is in receipt of the certified letter from the Arlington School Committee to support the Thompson School feasibility study for 380 students.

### Educational Program

Lori Cowles reviewed the Proposed Space Summary- Elementary Schools which included existing conditions, the proposed new space and the MSBA Educational Program & Space Standard Guidelines.

- K-5 Program will include 3 classes at every grade, support classrooms, special education classrooms, art, music, gym, and media center.
- Early Childhood Program

The Committee discussed the early childhood center and the relocation from AHS to the Thompson School. Diane Johnson explained that currently we are planning 5 classrooms, 4 of 20 (10 regular education students and 10 special education students) and one PDD class of 6 special education students.

Kevin Nigro stated that we will need to provide documentation to MSBA that there is a need for this; the administration will work on this.

The Committee discussed what percentage, if any, that the MSBA would reimburse for the early childhood center.

Kevin Nigro reported that we are not promised any reimbursement from MSBA (they may pay a certain percentage of that program), but believes that MSBA will approve the early childhood center portion of the building

The Committee requested that the school committee vote to transfer the early childhood center out of the high school to the Thompson School. Jeff Thielman stated that this would be an agenda item at the August 3rd school committee meeting.

- Central Kitchen & Storage

The Committee discussed whether the central kitchen remains on the site, or if not, where does it go? Rob Juusola stated that we must give MSBA details as to why we need a central kitchen. Lori referenced the memo where the food service director explains that the central kitchen is used to prepare items such as taco mix, American chop suey, spaghetti sauce etc.. from scratch, chilled in the cooler or freezer and shipped cold out to the elementary schools.

Additionally, the Thompson schools' cold and dry storage areas are used to receive the government commodities deliveries for all of the schools including the middle and high school. The district receives the deliveries every 1 to 2 weeks, are held at the Thompson then delivered to the other six elementary schools on a daily basis and to the middle and high schools every other week.

CFO Diane Johnson pointed out that we could temporarily do without a central kitchen, however our food delivery costs would increase substantially by adding multiple delivery sites (currently the food service program is almost self supporting), which would probably place food services into the red. Ms Johnson stated that one – two years without a central kitchen could be allowed as an interim solution if necessary. The Committee agreed that for planning purposes the kitchen remains centralized.

#### Lussiano/ North Union Park Status

Town Manager, Brian Sullivan, reported that the Parks and Recreation liked the sketch of the land swap but would like to see a sketch of the field laid out and with the dimensions. HMFH will do the sketch and get it to PMA and the Town Manager.

#### Traffic Study Results

No updates at this time, Kevin Nigro will be in touch with the Traffic Advisory Committee

#### Project Schedule

Kevin Nigro noted that based on discussions at tonight's meeting (below) he would work with HMFH on the project schedule and send it out to the committee.

- 380 student enrollment
- Centralized kitchen
- Early childhood center

Committee member, Tony Lionetta, voiced concerns over the cost of the project and questioned that if the end result is cost prohibitive should the committee continue with the feasibility study? (George Metzger had given a rough approximate of 25 million). The Committee agreed that the feasibility study continue, that we should plan for what we really want, see what the costs will be, and then decide how to move forward.

#### New Business

- Existing Conditions Report - PMA will set up a meeting with Director of Facilities Mark Miano to discuss the findings of the study. Committee members are encouraged to email Kevin any comments, concerns, etc. concerning the report.

#### Approval/Vote of Invoices

On a motion by Bill Shea seconded by Diane Johnson it was unanimously:

Voted to approve HMFH invoice 996209 in the amount of \$15,000

invoice 996251 in the amount of \$3,750.00 and HMFH invoice 996293 in the amount of \$1,500.00

#### Approval/Vote of Minutes

On a motion by Bill Shea seconded by Jeff Thielman it was

Unanimously voted to approve the TSBC meeting minutes of April 7 and May 5, 2010.

#### Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 18th at 7:00 pm, location to be determined.

Adjourn @ 9:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Tassone  
Recording Secretary